

members are afraid of making a sacrifice;—are afraid the meetings are going to cost them something.

I have in mind men who are living in luxury and own good farms; money on interest, and when asked to subscribe toward the support of an Evangelist to hold a meeting;—subscribe fifty cents or one dollar.

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. \* \* \* \* In tithes and offerings." Mal. 3: 8. How can such men *expect* to be blest either spiritually or temporally.

Another mistake that has been made is to begin to look around for a cheap man; a receiving of bids as to who will hold the meeting the cheapest. "It ought not so to be."

First then we would advise, if you have trouble in the church, settle it as far as it is in the power of the church to do so.

Learn as far as possible the standing of the members; to do this it sometimes becomes necessary to revive the membership list. A week of prayer just preceeding the meeting should be urged.

Secondly, appoint meeting with a determination to continue while there is work to be done and a good interest manifested.

Third, let every child of God in the congregation be determined to make a sacrifice for the cause, and scarcely any one is too poor to give something toward the support of a meeting. Raise your money; give as the Lord has prospered you. Appoint your time for meeting. Select your man to hold your meeting. Support him; stand by him. Hold up his hands and pray God's blessing upon him.

Goshen, Indiana.

#### GOD'S PRECIOUS PROMISE

G. A. RUFF

'The promise don't save, tho the promise is true; 'Tis the blood we get under that cleanseth us thru; It cleanseth me now, hallelujah to God, I rest on the promise—I'm under the blood."

The promise,—1. Sure and steadfast. "Hath he spoken and shall he not make it good?" (Num. 22: 19) "All the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God." (II Cor. 1: 20) 2. Abundant. "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises." (II Peter 1: 4) 3. Particular and definite. "I will guide thee with mine eye." (Psalm 32: 8) The great promise.—There are many "exceeding great and precious promises," shining from the Bible firmament, but they are to the one great promise as the stars to the sun. They have a borrowed light, conditioned upon the one Great Light, whose glory streams from Genesis to Revelation. "In thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed." (Acts 3: 25; Gen. 17: 7; 22: 18.) This blessing is Christ. (Gal. 3: 16.) This is the great promise: "I will send my Son into the world; and it has been fulfilled." (John 17: 18) "As thou hast sent me into the world," etc. John explains the full import of this great promise. "And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life." (I John 2: 25) God's

promise to send Christ was in effect a promise to us of life eternal. The Christ who was to come into the world was to bring life to the dead. (John 11: 25 27; 3: 15.) The Bible message hinges on this precious promise. If thou wilt receive him whom I have sent, thou too, shalt become a son of God. (John 1: 12.) We are to step out upon this great promise, and then we indeed become the heirs of all the other promises. All God's promises in him, are yea and Amen. We receive him, and thereby pardon from sin, deliverance from sin, peace, joy, rest to our souls, the quickening of the eternal life within and, by and by, the crown of life reserved for those who love him. Let us find a few of God's assurances and wear them very close to our daily lives. The classification here given is at least very simple:

Promises to the Seeker.—"He forgiveth all thine iniquities and healeth all thy diseases." (1) "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." (2) "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which is lost." (3) "I come not to judge the world, but to save the world." (4) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." (5) Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (6) To the seeker the command is "Come;" the promise is forgiveness of sins, deliverance from sin, and eternal life.

To the Disciple.—"Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also: and greater works than these shall he do." (7) "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." (8) "He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit." (9) "Ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost." (10) "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you."

To the Doubter.—(11) "My grace is sufficient for thee." (12) "The Lord is faithful, and he shall establish and keep you from evil." (13) "Fear thou not, for I am with thee: be not dismayed, for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee: yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

To the Backslider.—(14) "He that shall endure to the end shall be saved." (15) "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." (16) "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for, when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."

To the Powerless Church.—(17) "And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh." (18) "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Having therefore these promises, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. North Georgetown, Ohio.

Sergeantsville, N. J.

The work at this place is moving along nicely in all the departments of our church work. Our Children's Day service will be held on May 6th. This will be a very busy summer for our people, as they are not thru building yet. The financial strain on them has been great and will be for some time to come. Notwithstanding all this their mite has gone along with their prayers in response to the various calls from the brotherhood, as well as sending aid to starving India. If I was what some fadists, in and outside of the Brethren church claim to be, I would go there personally and have the plague stopped at least. But unfortunately for these people and places, the convenient refuge for these healing fanatics and fools, is near health and wealth.

Our mission Lord's day school at Calvary, was reorganized; a number of families having moved away, there is a small decrease in our attendance at present, but we hope to have others come in and take their places.

I find a full day's work here when I preach three times each Lord's day, teach two Bible classes and drive sixteen miles to and from mission points. We tried to fill brother I. D. Bowman's appointments at Allentown last week. The little band of faithful workers at that place have all the characteristics essential to a sure to win church. A few dollars spent there by our mission board (a thing they have not asked for) in helping them secure a faithful pastor to live and work with them, would ere long bring a bountiful harvest. Prof. A. H. Haines, chairman of "Huntingdon college faculty," preached for us recently, while home on a short vacation. He does his part well and we hope to have him with us during summer vacation, part of the time at least.

Communion services will be held at the First Brethren church, Sergeantsville, N. J., May 13, 6:30 P. M. Preparatory services, 10:30 A. M. EUGENE H. SMITH, Pastor.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Just closed a meeting of ten days at Ridgely, Md. Baptized seven, received one by relation who was disfellowshipped from G. B's, for wearing a hat, and reclaimed one who had backslidden, making nine in all. Our time was limited to the ten days. Six came forward the last night of the preaching service. Several others raised their hands for prayer. We closed with a communion service. We had beautiful weather, bright moonlight nights, and Prof. Bowman of Harrisonburg, Va., conducted the music. He also has a class there and will continue the class another week. His presence and help added much to the success of the meeting. We had good congregations and the best interest that we have ever had there; was very sorry to close but we could not do otherwise. Preached Easter Sunday here in the city. We have several more applicants for baptism here; will report next week. We had good Easter services in the Sunday school which was highly appreciated by all present.

ISAAC D. BOWMAN.

#### Communion Notice

There will be communion services in the Homer Brethren church, Ohio, on Saturday evening, May 12. The usual invitation is extended.